(e) the steps taken to augment taxonomic expertise in the light of NBA rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) is required for sending any biological resource out of the country for research, commercial use, bio-survey, or bio-utilization, in accordance with the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

(c) and (d) Not applicable.

(e) NBA Rules do not specifically address augmentation of taxonomic expertise. Recognizing the need for augmenting taxonomic expertise of the country, the Government is implementing an All India Coordinated Project on Capacity Building in Taxonomy in selected thematic areas, apart from continuous efforts being made by various institutions for publication of manuals for identification, maintenance of botanical and zoological collections, organization of training programmes, etc.

Clean development mechanism

2684. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has projects worth Rs. 64,000 crores, registered under clean development mechanism;

(b) if so, how many carbon credits would be available from India for trading at the International market;

(c) whether many countries like Japan (8 billion tonnes) are desirous of buying billion tonnes of carbon credits through global carbons exchange during the coming years; and

(d) the number of carbon credits required by us during the coming five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As on date, Government of India has accorded Host Country Approval (HCA) to 932 projects in various field such as Energy Efficiency, Fuel Switching, Industrial Processes, Municipal Solid Waste, Renewables and Forestry. Out of these, 327 projects have been registered with the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) set up under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The 932 projects that have been accorded Host Country Approval (HCA) facilitate an investment of Rs. 98452 crores in the country. The 932 approved projects have the potential to generate 47.9 million CERs by the end of the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol i.e., year 2012, if registered by the CDM Executive Board.

(c) All Annex-I (Developed) countries including Japan that are party to Kyoto Protocol have quantified emission limitation reduction targets. Japan has to reduce its emissions by 6% from its 1990 levels of 1237 million tonnes CO2 equivalent, by the end of its first commitment period, i.e., year 2012. Japan and some European Union countries are buying CERs as part of their emission reduction commitments directly from developing country companies.

(d) As per Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), developing country Parties including India have no such commitments to reduce green house gases, and, therefore, there is no requirement of carbon credits by us.

Forest Academy in Kerala

2685. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala submitted a project proposal for establishing a Forest Academy in the State;

(b) if so, details of the project therein, alongwith the total expected cost of the project;

(c) whether necessary clearance and sanction of funds have been accorded to the project; and

(d) if so, details thereto and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal for establishment of Kerala Forest Academy has been received.

(b) The objective of the proposed academy is to act as an umbrella organisation for all basic training needs of the Kerala Forest Department. It is proposed that the academy will conduct Refresher Training Courses for in-service frontline forest staff, Orientation Training for "to be promoted" officers, Executive Management Programmes for senior officers, Professional Training and Training of Trainers. The proposal envisages capital expenditure of Rs. 13.75 crore and recurring annual expenditure of Rs. 4.35 crore.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests does not have a scheme to support the proposed activity.

Polluting units in metro cities

†2686. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those units covered under 'H' and other categories as per Master Plan engaged in spreading pollution, State-wise particularly in the National Capital Delhi;

(b) the steps taken by Government to prevent the spreading of pollution from these units during the last three years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the pollution has become a serious problem in towns, cities and metropolitan cities particularly in the National Capital Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.